

Odd Man Out

By

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FADE IN:

INT. TRAVIS' APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

TRAVIS (early 20's), is asleep in a double bed. SUSIE (early 20's), moves quietly around the dark room putting clothes into a garbage bag. She wears a t-shirt and panties.

ON Susie: a tiny stir from Travis, she knows he's awake. She freezes. Travis, eyes open, not moving a muscle, watches as she quietly slips on a pair of sweat pants.

He rolls over, closes his eyes. She walks quietly out of the room, closes the door behind her.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAVIS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Travis opens the door. MARGOT (mid 20's), somewhat theatrical fashion sense, smiles and holds out a pan of LASAGNA.

MARGOT

She made me promise to look after you.

TRAVIS

It's not even lunch time.

MARGOT

Ah...well in that case...

She stoops, picks up a large bottle of wine. She hands it to him as she breezes past.

TRAVIS

Come on in.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAVIS' APARTMENT - NIGHT

Travis looks into the

SPARE BEDROOM

Susie has books and papers spread across a desk. Reading glasses perch on the end of her nose.

TRAVIS

Look up.

She looks up and smiles.

SUSIE

Forget it.

TRAVIS

They make me horny.

SUSIE

Men don't make passes at girls who wear glasses.

TRAVIS

Who said that?

SUSIE

Jennifer Jason Leigh.

TRAVIS

Right.

He walks down the

HALLWAY

circles around the

KITCHEN

and into the

LIVING ROOM

He's restless. Glances at the phone, walks over and takes it off the hook...listens to it buzzing: puts it back on the hook.

Takes it off the hook and puts it under a cushion on the couch. Hurries back to the

SPARE BEDROOM

TRAVIS

I'm gonna have a quick shower.

SUSIE

(not looking up)
About time.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAVIS' APARTMENT - BATHROOM - NIGHT

He leaves the door open a couple of inches, listens...nothing. Gets into the shower and washes quickly. He stops periodically (compulsively) to stick his head out and listen.

He applies shampoo, rubs it in manically, has just built up a good lather when...

PHONE RINGS

TRAVIS
Fuck no! Don't you...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CAFE - WINDOW TABLE - DAY

Travis and Margot sit by the window, her eyes are red and tear stained: he's angry.

TRAVIS
...dare! Don't you fucking dare!

MARGOT
I have to, I can't go on like this.
It's too hard.

TRAVIS
Oh bullshit, you don't give a fuck!

MARGOT
She's my sister.

TRAVIS
Everything's a goddamned act to
you. This is my life Margot.

MARGOT
I don't know what to do!

A KNOCK on the window, Margot turns, beams at a YOUNG MAN (late 20's), a sensitive, metrosexual in a goofy knit wool hat.

MARGOT
Henry!

She waves him inside.

MARGOT
What a goofball! Did you see
that...

Travis is striding away.

CUT TO:

INT.TRAVIS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Travis enters with a towel wrapped around his waist, hair still dripping wet. He glances at the phone. Susie is pulling on a jacket and boots.

TRAVIS
Where are you going?

MATCH CUT TO:

INT.TRAVIS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Susie stands by the door holding a suitcase. Travis, toothbrush in one hand, severe bed-head, looks at her.

SUSIE
My sister's.

TRAVIS
Margot?

SUSIE
(laughs)
Dope! Katie...hence the suitcase.

TRAVIS
Since when?

SUSIE
She just called...

MATCH CUT BACK TO:

INT.TRAVIS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

SUSIE
...she's upset about something.
You're dripping on the carpet.

TRAVIS

Margot's always upset about something...everything's a fucking tragedy. It's too late. It's 10:30.

She gives him a cool, appraising look as she leaves.

SUSIE

Don't wait up.

The door closes. Travis flops onto the couch, looks at his hands: they're trembling.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAVIS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Travis and Margot sit on the couch. The bottle of wine, almost empty, sits on the coffee table next to two also empty glasses. Margot is reading Travis' palm.

MARGOT

(laughing)

Are you nervous? Your hands are shaking.

He tries to pull his hand away.

MARGOT

I didn't read your palm yet.

She leans in closer, traces the lines on his palm with her fingertips.

MARGOT

Hmm...interesting.

TRAVIS

What?

MARGOT

I'll be back.

She glides off to the bathroom, shuts the door. Travis empties the last drops of wine into his glass.

The hallway light goes off. The bathroom door opens. Margot, dimly visible, steps into the hallway. Travis gapes: she's naked.

MARGOT
So, where do you want to fuck me?

CUT TO:

INT. TRAVIS' APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Travis lies in bed alone and awake, looks at the crack of light underneath the bedroom door.

LIVING ROOM

Susie zips up her jacket. Beside her are a suitcase and a garbage bag. She refuses to look up as Travis enters, stands by the hallway.

TRAVIS
Where are you going?

CUT TO:

INT. TRAVIS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Travis is still wearing only a towel, he's angry, panicking, almost yelling into the phone.

TRAVIS
Don't you tell her, do you hear me?
Don't tell her a thing!

beat

TRAVIS
Margot? Margot!

SUSIE
(filtered)
Don't tell me what Travis?

CUT TO:

INT. TRAVIS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Travis puts his wine glass on the table, stands up, watches as Margot disappears into the bedroom.

half beat

He follows her.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAVIS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Travis, in t-shirt and sweat pants, kneels in front of Susie on the couch, his head rests in her lap. Her hands stroke his hair but her face is blank.

TRAVIS
I'm sorry. I'm so sorry.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAVIS' APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Travis and Susie are in bed, about to make love.

TRAVIS
I love you.

SUSIE
I know.

TRAVIS
I love you so much.

SUSIE
Shh.

He kisses her neck, begins making love. She turns her face away (toward camera), her expression still blank.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAVIS' APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Travis pulls back the curtain, looks out onto the street, watches as Susie walks away with her suitcase and garbage bag.

FADE OUT:

THE END